



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #33 – July 21, 2003

5 Homeland Security Press Conferences Focus on Grants/Equipment

Missouri's Homeland Security Director Tim Daniel, SEMA Director Jerry B. Uhlmann, SEMA Operations Branch Chief and First Responder Grant Coordinator Jim Wakeman held five press conferences to discuss the almost \$59 Million in Homeland Security grants to Missouri for First Responder Readiness and to showcase regional homeland security team capabilities.

The grants include: \$10.8 Million announced in March, \$28.6 Million announced in April; \$9.8 Million for City of St. Louis with surrounding counties and mutual aid partners, and \$9.7 Million for City of Kansas City with surrounding counties and mutual aid partners. Missouri has 27 Homeland Security Response Teams, which cover approximately 93% of Missouri. The grant money will be used to continue to enhance the existing teams, possibly establish future teams. The grants also provide planning, training and exercise opportunities for state, regional and local response to terrorism. Wakeman gave reporters a breakdown on the grants to local teams at each press conference.

The Press Conferences were held in

- Columbia organized by EMD Jim McNabb with equipment displayed by Columbia Fire and Boone County FPD.
- Kansas City organized by the MARC at the Kansas City HAZMAT Fire Station in KC with representatives from the Northlands Fire Chiefs team, the Lee's Summit team, and Tri-District FPD and Johnson County team.
- Springfield organized by EMD Joye McElwee with equipment displayed by the Springfield, Logan/Rogersville team
- St. Louis organized by EMS Capt Bob Young and Fire Chief Bill Brandis at the Monsanto Parking Lot with equipment displayed and representatives of the St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Jefferson County, St. Charles/Warren County and Franklin County teams.
- Jackson (Cape Girardeau County) organized by EMD & Fire Chief Brad Golden featured the SEMO HAZMAT Team and representatives from Poplar Bluff.

DOJ Announces WMD Exercise Grant Criteria

The Department of Justice has enhanced the State Domestic Preparedness Program to include grant funds for costs associated with the conduct of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) exercises. The State Emergency Management Agency made grant packages available to the recognized Homeland Security Response Teams for the State of Missouri. Questions/comments concerning these exercise grants should be addressed to our State Exercise Officer, AJ Lehmen @ 573-526-9199 or e-mail him at alehmen@mail.state.mo.us

30 Missouri Fire Departments Receive Federal Firefighter Grants

The U. S. Fire Administration a division of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security announced that as of July 10th, 30 Missouri Fire Departments have received Federal Assistance for Firefighters Grants totaling \$1,331,517. The grant program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments. These funds are used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, fire fighter health

and safety programs, new fire apparatus, Emergency Medical Service programs, and Fire Prevention and Safety Programs.

Fire Departments receiving grants for Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety are: Alton Vol. Fire (\$79,380), Bell City Fire (\$9,860), Black River Fire Protection Vol. (\$60,750), Bunceton City & Rural Fire (\$28,402), Bunker Vol. Fire (\$25,992), Calhoun Fire (\$32,283), Cedar Creek Vol. Fire (\$39,308), Auxvasse City Fire (\$52,251), Cooper County Fire Protection (\$182,165), Everton City Fire (\$31,626); Glasgow Fire Protection (\$38,385), Hawk Point Fire Protection (\$25,920), Jackson Fire Rescue (\$33,300), Jameson Fire Protection (\$31,500), Leasburg Volunteer Fire (\$19,886), Liberty Township Fire Protection (\$62,568), Lilbourn Vol. Fire (\$9,171), Mooresville Township Fire Protection (\$26,603), Parma Vol. Fire (\$30,879), Rutledge Fire (\$5,130), Southern FPD of Holt County (\$63,652), Thornfield Vol. Fire (\$32,389) and White Rick Fire (\$57,726);

Fire Departments receiving grants for firefighting equipment are: Clearmont Rural Fire (\$62,250), Ellington Volunteer Fire (\$152,000), Myrtle Rural Fire (\$72,900), Pottersville Fire (\$90,000), Skidmore Fire Protection (\$121,500), Tuscumbia Fire Protection (\$202,500), and Vichy Fire Protection (\$135,000).

Disaster Field Office in Springfield Transitions to Long Term Recovery, Public Assistance Continues To Work in SW MO

The Disaster Field Office recovery activities for the Presidential Disaster for the May tornados closed Friday, July 18. However, a FEMA long-term recovery team for Southwest Missouri communities will remain in Springfield. The Federal Long Term Recovery team will write recovery plans and coordinate federal resources for Southwest Missouri communities especially Pierce City and Stockton.

All remaining work with the public assistance (infrastructure damages, debris removal, etc.) will be conducted out of the SEMA offices in Springfield, Jefferson City, and at FEMA's regional offices in Kansas City. FEMA will continue to work with citizens who registered damages via the 800-telephone number during the disaster.

As of July 8, \$32 Million Approved for Missouri Disaster Assistance

Nearly \$32 million in state and federal assistance has already been approved for more than 2,300 claims from Missourians who were affected by the devastating tornadoes, severe storms and flooding which began on May 4. Seventy-six Missouri counties received a federal disaster designation – 74 have Individual Assistance and/or Public Assistance; but only 2 counties were designated as Public Assistance only. Federal and state disaster officials offer the following 60-day summary of assistance efforts to date:

- **6,714** individuals in 74 disaster-declared Missouri counties have applied for federal and state assistance, including 109 calls the last day and more than 250 during the final week.
- **\$31,717,848** approved in grants and low-interest loans for more than 2,300 Missourians
 - **\$3,804,022** approved in Housing Assistance grants for temporary rental and minimal home repairs
 - **\$3,861,525** approved in Other Needs Assistance grants for necessary expenses and serious needs.
 - **\$24,052,300** approved in U.S. SBA low-interest loans, including 571 home loans (\$19,882,100) and 137 business loans (\$4,170,200)
- **Crisis Counseling** - Missouri Department of Mental Health call **800-494-7355 or 800-811-4760**.
- The **Internal Revenue Service** provides special tax relief for disaster victims call **800-829-1040**.
- For information about **U.S. Department of Agriculture** disaster assistance contact local USDA offices.
- **Disaster Legal Services**, including assistance with disaster issues call **888-234-5695**.
- Individuals or business owners who need to provide additional information concerning their application can call FEMA's Help line at **800-621-FEMA (3362)** and select "Option 3."

First Citizen Corps Conference in Missouri

SEMA hosted and administered the first Citizen Corps Conference in Kansas City at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The conference was made possible through a partnership and grant with FEMA Region VII. All four states (Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska) in Region VII participated in the conference. Missouri's Citizen Councils' participation in the conference exceeded combined participation of all three other states. While FEMA staff

arranged for the speakers and materials, SEMA managed the conference logistics and administration. Presenters from Missouri, neighboring states, FEMA and other Federal partners discussed and explained the many aspects of Citizen Corps especially CERT. The greatest benefits were the networking opportunities for the Missouri Citizen Councils and the exchange of information, concerns, issues and questions between local Citizen Councils, SEMA and FEMA. Questions about Citizen Councils can go to Dante Gliniecki, SEMA Statewide Volunteer Coordinator (573-526-9132)

COADS and Long Term Recovery Underway in Missouri

Following the tornados of May 2003, SEMA in conjunction with the Missouri Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MOVOAD) and the Disaster Recovery Partnership undertook the mission of ensuring that local Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs) or local VOADs or Citizen Councils or combinations of the three were extant and operating effectively in the hardest hit communities.

Those communities with active collaborative organizations before the disaster hit were the most successful in meeting the demands of mass care, volunteer coordination, spiritual care, donations management and addressing unmet needs in human services. The need for community collaborative organizations in every county and major metro area – be it a COAD, local VOAD or Citizen Council or all three – becomes clearer with every disaster.

The focus now is on sustaining the long-term recovery committees - formerly known as unmet needs committees. After all the Federal individual and household assistance programs have run their course, the local collaborative organization (e.g., COAD, VOAD, etc.) will establish long term recovery committees. Emergency management is a four-phase process and the recovery phase is in some ways the most challenging yet potentially valuable. Community collaborative organizations are a key to success.

Missouri Disaster Recovery Partnership, MOVOAD and Missouri Interfaith Disaster Response Network Come Together

Although the Missouri Disaster Recovery Partnership, MOVOAD, the Missouri Interfaith Disaster Response Network and local COADs are strongly interconnected and linked together, they have never met all together in one meeting. In an unprecedented event, all the groups will meet at one time at 11:00 a.m. on July 23 at SEMA's SEOC. The goal of the meeting will be to identify issues, discuss solutions, forge partnerships, share ideas, discover best practices, learn of programs and resources and provide help and support to organizations and agencies involved in the recovery effort. The end result will be better human services for disaster survivors. The meeting is open to all with a role in providing and supporting human services during the tornado recovery effort.

For more information call Dante Gliniecki (573-526-9132) or Rhua Ridenhour (573-526-9111) at SEMA